BOARD LETTER – SUMMARY SHEET HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CLUSTER

AGENDA REVIEW	05/07/2014
BOARD MEETING	05/20/2014
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT	All
DEPARTMENT	Mental Health (MH)
SUBJECT	Approval to renew Agreements and enter into future Agreements with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles and the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles for Fiscal Years 2014-15 through 2018-19.
PROGRAM	The housing subsidy program provides DMH homeless clients certificates and vouchers for which DMH will provide an in-kind match of mental health supportive services.
DEADLINES	One of the Agreements is set to expire May 31, 2014.
COST & FUNDING	The housing subsidies are fully funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development revenues and distributed to the local housing authorities. There is no financial compensation for the existing Housing Agreements with the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles and Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (Housing Authorities). The Housing Authorities only require DMH to provide in-kind mental health supportive services to the homeless clients.
PURPOSE OF REQUEST	Board approval will allow DMH to renew and/or amend existing Agreements and enter into future Agreements with the Housing Authorities. The Housing Authorities will provide DMH clients and their families Tenant-Based Rental Assistance(TBRA)/Shelter Plus Care (SPC), Tenant-Based Supportive Housing, and Homeless Section 8 certificates while DMH provides in-kind mental health supportive services to the clients
SUMMARY/ ISSUES (Briefly summarize program and potential issues or concerns. Identify changes, if any, to level of funding or staffing; how funding will be utilized and why best use; prior accomplishments; and for BLs involving contracts, also note changes to the contract term.)	Since 1997, DMH has been granted TBRA and SPC certificates. These certificates were made available to DMH homeless clients served by DMH in our directly-operated clinics and contracted agencies. Over the years, these certificates have assisted DMH homeless clients with transitioning from homelessness to a permanent, affordable home. The Housing Authorities only require DMH to provide an in-kind match of supportive services. The supportive services provided by DMH include outreaching and engaging the homeless population that meets DMH eligibility criteria, assisting homeless clients complete the housing application, accompanying them to appointments, assisting in the housing search, preparing for the housing authority and landlord interviews and assisting with moving in. Board approval will enable DMH to continue providing clients and their families' access to subsidized housing through contracts with the Housing Authorities and help support the County's effort to end homelessness.
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